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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

WLF

COPY

REPLY TO: 3430 FIDM Evaluation

June 14, 1979

LAT 39.74809

SUBJECT: Insect Evaluation

LON -120.99588

TO: Forest Supervisor, Plumas NF

100 000 acres



While on the forest, John Pierce was contacted by the LaPorte District and requested to help with some problems related to salvage logging. Pierce met with Ranger Johnson and some of his staff to fly the district and make ground examinations on May 25, 1979.

From the air it is apparent that considerable opportunities for salvage remain. The main concentration of tree mortality seems to have shifted from the South Fork drainage to the Middle Fork.

Tree markers are reporting increasing incidence of red turpentine beetle attacks and were unsure how to respond to this condition. To investigate this, 4 trees with fresh turpentine beetle attacks were felled for further examination. Two trees were discovered to also be under mass attack by the western pine beetle much higher up on the bole. The 2 other felled trees had not been attacked by the western pine beetle; at least not yet.

While trees attacked by the turpentine beetle need not automatically be selected for salvage, such trees should be carefully inspected for western pine beetle attacks higher in the tree. Questionable trees should occasionally be cut for further examination and guidance. Since new western pine beetle attacks are now beginning, some green, hard to recognize, infested trees are accumulating in the forest. If these are sought out while salvage loggers are at hand, greater timber value and beetle suppression can be achieved by rapid salvage efforts.

Wilfred L. Freeman, Jr.

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